



WORLD KONKANI CENTRE

42 वे ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार 42nd Jnanpith Award



आनी कोंकणी साहित्याक
ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार घेवपी
पद्मभूषण रविन्द्रबाब केळेकार.



Awarded to
Shri Ravindra Kelekaar, Goa

Released for the information of Konkani people, especially the students,
regarding the Bharatiya Jnanpith and the recipient of the jnanpith award.



ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार:

कोंकणी आनी संस्कृत
भासेर ज्ञान म्हळ्ळे
एकूच अर्थ. तशें कोण
लोक ज्ञानाचे पीठ याने

मूळ आस्तात तांका ज्ञानपीठ
पुरस्कार. सगळे
भारतांत आयजतांय
केवल 48 लोकांक
ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार
प्राप्त जालां. तांतु
आम्चे कोंकणीचो
रविन्द्रबाब केलेकार
एकलो. हें कोंकणि
लोकांक एक व्हडलें
भरम.

प्रारंभ कशें:

श्री साहु शांती प्रसाद जैन भारताचो
एकलो श्रेश्ट उद्योगपती, चिंतक
आनी दानी. ताणे 1943-44 चे
वेळार वारणासिंत भारतीय
ज्ञानपीठाचें स्थापन केलें. देशाचो
सर्व प्रथम रास्ट्रपती बाबु राजेन्द्र
प्रसादान मान्य केलेलें प्रकार
संस्थेची अध्यक्षी श्रीमती रमा जैना
मुखार 1965 चे इसवेंत प्रथम
ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार केरळ राज्याचो श्री
गोविंद शंकर कुरूप हाका दिलो.
2006 इसवेचो पुरस्कार आम्चे
कोंकणीचो रविन्द्रबाब केलेकाराक
प्राप्त जालां म्हळ्ळो विशेय आम्का

What is Jnanpith award:

The word Jnyan means knowledge both in Konkani and Sanskrit. Thus, the award Jnanpith is awarded to people who are considered as seat of knowledge. It is awarded to people who expressed their vast storehouse of knowledge through their creative writings. It is an honor to all Konkani people that it has been awarded to a Konkani writer Ravindrabab Kelekar.

Founder of the Bharatiya Jnanpith:



Late Sahu Shantiprasad Jain and the founder of the Jnanpith award Smt. Rama Jain.

How did it start:

Sahu Shanthi Prasad Jain, himself a great thinker and philanthropist founded the Bharatiya Jnanpith in 1943-44 with the aim of bringing the vast knowledge of Indian thinkers and writers over the millenniums to footsteps of a common Indian

citizen. His wife Smt. Rama Jain, herself an untiring activist and the founder President of the Jnanpith promulgated the Jnanpith award, aproved by the first President of India, Babu Rajendra Prasad and the first one was awarded to Govind Shankar Kurup in 1965. It is a proud day to the Konkani world that the 2006 Jnanpith was awarded to Ravindrabab Kelekar.

India is a land of many languages:

The Constitution of India had spelled out languages coming under the 8th schedule. Writers in all those languages were considered. True to her tradition of 'Unity in diversity' the award went to Malayalam language and not the majority language of Hindi. Konkani entered in to the 8th schedule of the constitution as late as 1992. Yet, Konkani and Ravindrabab were decorated with the prestigious Jnanpith award.

The blessings of Vagdevi:

There are three beautiful gifts in the Jnanpith award. The first one is the award- symbol of which is a bronze idol of Vagdevi Saraswati. This beautiful statue





सर्वांकय भरम.

बोभासेचें देश भारत:

ते वेळाक भारताक
राजकीय स्वातंत्र्य प्राप्त

जावन (1947) भारत एक गणतंत्र बी
जावन आसिलें (1950). देशाचे
सम्बिधानाचे 8वे परिच्छेदांत मान्य
जालेले सर्व भासेचे बरपीयांले बरप
हे पुरस्काराक मानचें म्हळ्ळो निर्णय
जालो. भारताचे 'विविधतेत एकता'
म्हळ्ळे मूल चिंतने प्रमाण प्रथम
पुरस्कार मलयाळम भासेक गेलो
शिवाय बोसंख्यात हिन्दी भासेक
गेलो ना म्हळ्ळो व्हडलो विचार
आम्ही समजूका. कोंकणी भास 42
वरसा उप्रांत (1950 1992)
संविधानाचे 8वे परिच्छेदांत मेळ्ळी
आनी 42चो पुरस्कार कोंकणीचो
रविन्द्रबाबाक मेळ्ळो. हो आम्का
सगळे कोंकणी लोकांक अभिमानचो
विशेय खरें.

वाग्देवीलो आशिर्वाद:

ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कारांत
तीन बोमान आसती.
प्रथम वाग्देवी
सरस्वतिलें कांश्याचे
मूर्ती. ही मूर्ती पूर्व
कालांत धारानगरींत
भोज रायान इसवी
1035 तं स्थापन



is the replica from the temple of 'Saraswati-
kanthabaran-prasada, built at Dhara Nagari of
King Bhoja (in Madhya Pradesh) in the year
1035. There is a 'ratna-traya' halo from the
Kankali of Mathura, behind her head. The book,
waterpot, the rosary and the lotus in her four
hands, symbolize knowledge, self-control,
dispassion and introspection respectively. The
second is a cash prize which was Rs. 2.5 lakhs
in 1965 and is 7 lakhs today. The third is a
citation which declares the work and the
contribution of the recipient. The citation of
Ravindrabad is an inspiration to the present and
the future generations of Konkani people.

Source of Knowledge:

The Taitirya Upanishad is in the form of a
Dialogue between the Preceptor who is the Guru
and his disciple the student. The student asks
'Kimeti Brhma?' 'Sir what is ultimate? The Guru
tells four things. One of them is 'Jnanam' or
knowledge. The Bharatiya Jnanpith considers
that in India one who has understood her
history, Material and ephemeral achievements,
her scriptures, her problems, her fine arts and
literatures, her economy and her common
people and their difficulties and expresses in
his/her writings is considered as seat of
knowledge. Such persons are awarded the
Jnanpith. Our own Ravindrabad was awarded
the 42nd Jnanpith award. As on date 48 such
seats of Knowledge have been decorated with
this rare award.

Like the poets Bakibab Borkaar and Manohar
Rai Sardesai, Ravindrabad straddles cultures
and languages, both Indian and European and
these influenced his unique human sensibility.
Apart from literary works in Konkani, he wrote

extensively in Hindi,
Marathi. He delved
in to French,
German, English
and Portuguese
literature.

Ravindrabad's
K o n k a n i
Mahabharath is
considered as the
b e s t
transc





केलेले वाग्देवी सरस्वती
कंठाभरण मंदिरांत
आसिले सरस्वतिली
मूर्तीची प्रतिकृती. तिजे
मात्याचे मावशी 'रत्नत्रय'

चें प्रभावळ. हातांत पुस्तक, कळश,
जपमाळा आनी पद्मळे मोको. हें ज्ञान,
सांयम, अनासाक्ती आनी
आत्मनिरीक्षणाचें
चित्र जावन आसाती.

पुरस्काराचें दूसरो
वांटो म्हळ्यार एक
प्रशस्ती पत्र. हें
प्रशस्ती पत्र म्हणता
(Citation)

भारतीय ज्ञानपीठ

2006 वर्साचे ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार
कोंकणी भासेचे शिरोमणी साहित्य
सर्जक आनी संस्कृती संवाहक श्री
रविन्द्र केलेकार हांका भारतीय
साहित्याचें श्रीवृद्धिक तांगेले उत्कृष्ट
योगदाना खातिर समर्पण कर्ता.

ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्काराचें तीस्रो वांटो
म्हळ्यार 7 लाख रूपयेचो नखद.
1965 तुं दिल्लें प्रथम पुरस्काराक
तावळ 2.5 लाख नखद आसिलें.
रविन्द्रबाबाक दिल्लें प्रशस्ती पत्र
कोंकणी समाजाचे जांटे आनी तर्नाटे
दोनांकय उमेद हाडचें तशे आसा.

reation of that epic in any language.

Influenced by great Souls:

During his life time Ravindrabab was influenced by many great people of India. Mahatma Gandhi, Ram Manohar Lohia and Kaakasaheb Kalelkaar were some. He had read Karl Marx in his younger days and yet he was attracted to Gandhian Philosophy and stuck with that rest of his life time.

God loving Ravindrabab:

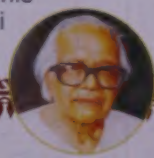
Often people had described him as a rationalist.

Yet, his knowledge was deep rooted in Vedas and Upanishad, the ancient Indian Jnanpith. He himself had once uttered after the sad demise of his grandson Tobu. "Will He not give love and a touch of affection to this young soul? He knows that this

grandfather of his not such blind rationalist that He would say no". He is also like an Agnihotri who offers sacrifice to fire, but to a different fire, the fire of knowledge or the Jnan. No wonder the utmost award for a person of knowledge, the Jnanpith was offered to Ravindrabab.

Status of Konkani & Ravindrabab:

Ravindrabab's biggest dream was that Konkani land should be liberated from the clutches Portuguese. So he became an activist of Goa liberation movement. Goa was liberated when he was a young volunteer of 35 years age. In 1967 he actively campaigned for 'Independent Goa' and not a part of Maharashtra State. That too saw success. In 1987 Goa attained Statehood and Konkani became the State language of Goa. He became one of the earliest writers to get Shaitya Academy recognition for Konkani work. He almost spearheaded the Konkani movement for her rightful status in the 8th schedule of the Constitution of India. In 1992 even that dream of his became a reality. Konkani





ज्ञानांचें मूळ खंय?

तैतीरिया उपनिशद्
म्हळ्यार पदवी प्रधान
सुवाळ्यांत

(Convocation) गुरू-शिष्यालो संवाद. शिष्य विचारता ब्रह्म म्हळ्यार कितें? तो गुरू सांगता 'ज्ञान त ब्रह्म' हें ज्ञानाचे विस्तार कितलें? भारतीय ज्ञानपीठेचे प्रमाण जो व्यक्तीचे हडे भारताचे इतिहास, तीजे मूळ ज्ञानचें वेद-उपनिशद्, तीजी ललित कला, साहित्याचे प्रकार, तीजें लोकांचे कश्ट आनी ताजें परिहार, तिजें सामजिक आनी सांस्कृतिक विविधताचे व्हळक कोणालागी आसा आनी कोण तें बरे नमून्यार बरप कर्ता, तो ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्काराक योग्य आसा. तें प्रमाणे आयज पर्यंत देशांत केवल 48 लोकांक ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार प्राप्त जालां. रविन्द्रबाब तांतु 42 चो.

कोंकणीचे दूसरे बरपी बाकिबाब बोरकार आनी मनोहर राय सर्देसाय सार्के रविन्द्रबाबय भास आनी संस्कृतिच्या एक विशिष्ट सम्मिश्रण आसिलो आनी ताजेन ताजें बरप भायर पडलें. तें जायतर भारतीय उरो न्हय तर युरोपियन उरो. पूण ताजें बीज कोंकणी आसिली. रविन्द्रबाबाचे काळजेर खूब श्रेश्ट लोकांली परिणाम आसिलो. महात्मा

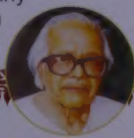
population is a miniscule of the India's 1100 million people About 1.7 million in Goa and an equal number outside Goa. Yet, Ravindrabab became the 42nd recipient of Jnanpith award for his Konkani work.

Crowning glory of a prolonged struggle:

Written Konkani is 1000 years old as seen from stone inscription at the foot of monolithic Bahubali statue at Shravanbelagola in Karnataka. This fact was enough to encourage hundreds of Konkani literateurs over the next 1000 years. 20th century Konkani world saw a spectrum of writers, Shenoy Goenbab, Manohar Rai Sardesai, Baakibab Borkaar, Chafra D'costa, Olievia Gomes are some such literary figures. Ravendrabab Kelekaar is probably the crowning glory of in the row such eminent Konkani writers. Fifty years of constant struggle, tolerating ridicule, fight against odds, overcoming the indifferent attitude of Konkani speakers and worst of all lack of any royal patronage, Ravindrabab was able to reach the top that is the Jnanpith.

Marvels of Konkani literature:

AS early as 1946 Ravindrabab realized the potential of the Mother language in inspiring the people for a struggle for Independence. He started writing in Konkani. He edited the Konkani Bharti magazine which was published from Bombay (1955-60) and later Jaag from Goa, of which remained till his end in 2010. He created more than 20 masterpieces of Konkani literature. In 1975 Sahitya Academy recognized that Konkani is an Independent language and first Konkani award was given Ravindrabab's work Himalayanth in 1977. It is beautiful travelogue describing the natural bounty of Himalayas interspersed with the philosophy of life. His Konkani translation of Gujarathi work in to 'Aami thanka manasaantha Hadley' and Pune Mahabarath in two volumes not only won the first Konkani translation award of the Sahitya Academy in 1990 but is also considered as the best translation of that Epic in to any language in the world. His work Ashi Aasile Gandhiji and Mahatma shows the deep impact of Mahatma Gandhi and Gandhian philosophy in the life of Ravindrabab. Similarly his book Tathagath on Gautham





गांधी, राम मनोहर लोहिया, काकासाहेब कालेलकार. ताणे कार्ल मार्क्साचें साहित्य बी खूब वाजलें. पूण ताजे वयर अत्यंत व्हडलो प्रभाव पडलो गान्धीची तत्व आनी अहिंसा.

रविन्द्रबाब आनी कोंकणीचें स्थान:

कोंकणी भासेक तिजें स्थान मेळपाक पयलें गोंय स्वतंत्र जावपाक जाय. पुर्तुगेसान गोंय साडका. रविन्द्रबाब बी ताजे 20 वरस प्रायेर 'गोवा स्वातंत्र्य आंदोलन' क मेळ्ळो. पूण भारत सरकाराचें विळंब नीतीचें प्रमाण हें काम आनी 15 वर्सांचे उप्रांत जालें. तेदळ रविन्द्रबाबाक 35 वरस प्राय. कोंकणी भास वांचका जाल्यार गोंय स्वतंत्र उरका, महाराष्ट्रांत विलीन जावचें ना. हें तत्वान रविन्द्रबाब ताजें इश्टां सांगात क्रियाशील जालो. गोंयचे 1967 Opinion Poll तं कोंकणी लोक जैत जाले. गोंय स्वतंत्र उर्ले आनी 1987 एक राज्य जालें, कोंकणी तिजी राज्य भास जाली. रविन्द्रबाबान हाका फुडारपण घेतलें. तीस्रें संग्राम जैत जालें. ताजें उप्रांत रविन्द्रबाब आनी ताजे सांगात आनी खूब लोकालें निरंतर वावराचें फ़ल जावन 1992 इसवेंत भारतचे संविधानाचे 8 वे परिच्छेदांत कोंकणी भास मेळ्ळी.

Buddha shows the influence of Buddha's philosophy and non violence in the psyche of Ravindrabab.

Mother language is the best of all:

"Mother language is the best of all" Ravindrabab always used to say. One of his first works in 1962 was 'Aamchi Bhas Konkani' where he appealed to Konkani speakers to retain her identity and how to develop Konkani. This was a stupendous task. Konkani was the Mother language of less than 4 million people, half of them in Goa, surrounded by 50 million Marathi speaking population in the north and 50 million Kannada speaking people in the South. The other half was already spread in the same states and the far off Kerala with her Malayalam State language. They were looking at Goa for the lead which they never got because of constant political instability of Gomanthak. While the politicians struggled for this stability people like Ravindrabab served their life time for keeping Konkani alive. This did not go a waste. As early as 1962 he wrote "Shaalenth Konkani Kithyaak" Why teach Konkani in schools? Ravindrabab realized that unless the next generation can read and write Konkani the language will die due to attrition. His efforts bore fruits four decades later. The Goa education department has released figures which show constant increase in Konkani learners in Goa schools.

Ravindrabab's message to us:

Ravindrabab's life time work gives us two clear messages.

1. Learn to read and write Konkani. Fortunately, not only for Goa but also for Konkani people in Karnataka and Kerala, Konkani is permitted to be learnt in schools as third optional language. Text books are already printed and distributed free by the corresponding Governments. Encourage your wards to learn Konkani in schools. Even adults who have long finished their schooling learn Konkani.

Konkani is a great language. Rich in vocabulary and grammar. Learn the literary Konkani. There are potential Jnanpiths in Konkani community. Do not hesitate, do write. You could be one.





ज्ञानपीठाचें प्रशस्ती पत्र.

CITATION

Bharatiya Jnanpith presents the Jnanpith award for the year 2006 to the outstanding creative writer of Konkani language and communicator of culture, Shri Ravindra Kelekar for his exceptional contribution to the enrichment of Indian literature.

Born on March 7, 1925, Shri Kelekar took interest in literary, social and cultural activities from the beginning. A matchless leader of 'Goa's liberation struggle', an illustrious disciple of Kaka Saheb Kalelkar and an architect of Konkani language, Shri Kelekar is a father figure. His glorious literary journey began with the publication of the book '*Satyagraha*' in 1955. Till today he has published more than 32 original books in various genres in Konkani, Hindi and Marathi. His major works are: '*Ashe Ashille Gandhiji*', '*Tulshi*', '*Ujvadache Sur*', '*Tathagal*', '*Ghuspalle Janve*', '*Panthastha*', '*Aghal- Paghal*', '*Mahatma Gandhi - Ek Jeevan*' and '*Japan Jasa Disla*'. Shri Kelekar has rendered and translated more than a dozen books into Konkani. Popularly known by the appellation of Ravindrabab, Shri Kelekar's creative development encompasses the finest dimensions of humanity. His works are illuminated by the light of Upanishadic thought and authentic inferences. His travels to various countries have given his inner journey a rare universal context. He is a polyglot, a profound scholar, an outstanding editor, a realized seer and an epoch-making writer endowed with spiritual radiance.

A number of major awards and honours have been conferred upon him, including Padma Bhushan, Bhasha Bharati Samman, Sahitya Akademi Translation Award, Goa Art Academy Award, Central Hindi Directorate Award, Gomanta Sharada Puraskar, Konkani Sahitya Ratna Puraskar etc. Bharatiya Jnanpith wishes that Shri Ravindra Kelekar enjoys a long life and that he continues to enrich Indian literature with his multidimensional writings.

Sitakant Mahapatra

Chairman

Selection Board

Indu Jain

President

Bharatiya Jnanpith

Panaji, Goa ♦ 31 July 2010

The Citation awarded to Ravindrabab Kelekar
for the 42nd Jnanpith Award:





हैं हातपुस्तकाचें मुकळिका जालें:



श्रीमती टि.विमला वी.पै आनी
टी.वी.रमण पै वसतीगृहाचें
शिलान्यासाचे शुभघडेर.
१०/१०/२०१०.



दानी आनी प्रमुख प्रायोजक. श्री
टी.वी.मोहनदास पै, आडळित मंडळी
वांगडो, इन्फोसिस टेक्नोलजी, बेंगळूर.



प्रमुख संपादक आनी प्रकाशक. विश्व
कोंकणी सरदार बस्ती वामन शेणाय,
अध्यक्ष, कोंकणी भास आनी संस्कृति
प्रतिष्ठान, विश्व कोंकणी केन्द्र, मंगळूर.



संग्रह आनी संकलन श्रीमती
उषा पै आनी प्रो. डा. के.मोहन
पै. गौरव सचिव, कर्नाटक राज्य
कोंकणी भाषा शिक्षण
संस्थांचो संघ, मंगळूर.

